

Jean Monnet Chair's Connecting Session at the 14th Slovenian Social Science Conference

The event in the on-line hybrid environment combining ZOOM and off-line participants in Nova Gorica took place on June 17, 2022 in the framework of the 14th Slovenian Social Science Conference on *Coping with re-emerging social challenges for humanity*. The main emphases were on environmental sustainability, digitalisation, media and education.

The presentation of the Chair and its recent activities was followed by the keynote speech by assoc. prof. dr. **Igor Jelen** from University of Trieste, Italy who presented the most recent challenges for peace and solidarity.

The papers were presented on a variety of socio-political issues, including the rise of autocracy in the Sahel by **Tope Akinyetun, Sarah Adedini, Aihonsu Ahoton** and **Jamiu Alausa**, the understanding of nationalism and ethnicity among refugees by **Vikas Sharma** and **Ashwani Kumar** and on the links between individual radicalization and trauma by Janja Mikulan.

Latter on, this was followed by the **international roundtable on connecting local and transnational social solidarity**. This included the issues of sustainable peace, strengthening the EU-NATO relationship, the challenges for the developing countries and the relationship between solidarity and smartness. The international scholars, involved in the panel were Romina Gurashi, Maria Isabel Nieto Fernández, Ananda Rao Kuriti and Ilaria Iannuzzi.

